Amusements and Alcetings.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Brooklyn .- " Madame L'Archique BOOTH'S THEATER .- "Lattle Em'ly." BARNUM'S ROMAN HIPPODROME.-At 2:30 and at 8. BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, -Minetrels.
DALY'S PIFTH AVENUE THRATER. - "Charity." LYCKUM THEATER.—" Twixt Axe and Crown."
OLYMPIC THEATER.—Variety Performance. PARK THEATER.—" Lo Voyage on Chine."
STEINWAY HALL.—Grand Concert. Theodore Thomas. SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS -Birch and Wambold. UNION SQUARE THEATER .- "The Two Orphans," WALLACK'S THEATER.-" The Shaughraun." Dion Bouch

HETROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART.-Art Exhibition ROBINSON HALL.-" Regone Dult Care." Mr. Maccabe

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Enginess Notices

BEST PLAN IN LIFE INSURANCE-The all-\$4 will buy a pair of Gents' neat, servicea-ble WINTER SHOES. CANTARLE, 239 and 241 Fourth-ave.

TERMS OF THE TRIBUNE.

DALLY TRIBUNE, Mail Subscribers, \$10 per annum. SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE, Mail Subscribers, \$3 per annum WEEKLY TRIBUNE, Mail Subscribers, \$2 per annum Advertisements received at un-town offices, 54; W. 52d-st., or 508 W. 23d-st., at the Harlem Office, 2,386 Fourth-ave., between 129th and 130th-sts.; and at the Brooklyn Branch Office, 323 Washington-st., next door to the Post-office, till 8 p. m., at regular rates.

During the construction of the front of the new Tribune building. The Tribune Office may be found in the first building in the rear on Sprucest. The Tribune Counting Room toon the first floor, and tentered at the second door down Spruce st. from the old site.

New-Dork Daily Tribune. FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY

MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 1875.

WITH SUPPLEMENT.

The German fleet in Spanish waters has an armament of fifty guns. ==== King Alfonso will assume sommand of the army of the North of Spain. Strenuous effects will be made for the relief of Pampeluna There has been a rupture between the two Kings of Siam. - A Bonapartist deputy has prebably been returned to the French Assembly from the Department of Hautes Pyrences.

In the Senate on Saturday the Louisiana debate was continued, Messrs. Saulsbury, Ciayton, and Sherman making speeches. - The report of the Committee on Louisiana Affairs meets with the disapproval of Republican members of Congress. It is charged that many of the statements are false, and that the Commit tee did not do its work thoroughly.

Gov. Kelloge and his adherents in Louisiana are en Committee. A large meeting of citizens in Cinclinati Baturday night, adopted resolutions denouncing the outrage. - The extreme cold in the North-West continues. --- The agreement of the Pittsburgh iron puddlers to resume work has been rescinded by the molons.

— Gen. F. M. Cockrell was nominated Saturday by the Missouri Democrats to succeed Senator Schurz.

Severe weather on the Atlantic, causing grave delays and hardships to vessels, was reported. - New rules for lighterage have been adopted. - Four men were killed by an explosion in a dynamite metory in the harbor on Saturday. - The annual report of the Heal h Officer of the Port was submitted. —— Numerous suits have been begun for violations of minor city ordinances. Thermometer, 20°, 24°, 18°. Gold, 112, 112). 1134. Gold value of the legal-tender dollar at the close

That the report of the Louisiana Investigation Committee should create something like a panic in the party upholding the Kellogg usurpation is not surprising; but who would ever suppose that it would lead such an able, if bitter, partisan as Senator Morton to utter the absurd opinions and predictions recorded in one of our Washington dispatches

New-York has been remarkably free from contagious diseases of foreign origin during the past year. While this is largely owing to the decrease in the number of emigrants who have arrived, it is also the result of a rigorous enforcement of the quarantine regulations In his annual report printed on our tenth page to-day, the Health Officer of the port makes some interesting suggestions as to the true methods of protection against epidemics.

If the purport of the suppressed testimony in the Pacific Mail investigation be as indicated very clearly in our Washington dispatches, the Committee of Ways and Means can hardly be justified on any ground in withholding it longer. The well-known names appearing on the partial list of Congressmen said to have received the Pacific Mail Company's one thousand dollar checks must create an anxiety and apprehension which will increase until the whole list and all accompanying evidence are made public.

The letters printed in another column will probably be accepted by our readers as satisfactorily closing the case of H. Regnault agt. Schenck & Co. The defendants played a bold game, and courted defeat with an impudence that did them a certain credit. There is an artistic pleasure in seeing even knavery skillfully acted, but now that the curtain has fallen on this little drama we hope the actors will recognize the fact that their talent was expended upon a poor comedy which has been so effectually damned as to make a repetition of it a mere waste of powder.

receiving an unusual number of complaints from all quarters, but particularly from the up-town regions in New-York, and from friends in out of town places, that the supply

larger than usual, is exhausted almost immediately on their arrival. We can only urge our friends to insist that the news-dealer shall furnish them the paper they want, and refuse, if he will not, to take any at all from him. Meantime a permanent order left at any news-stand, or forwarded directly to this office, will always prove a certain remedy. In addition, in each case where we are given the particulars of a failure to supply the demand we do what we can to remedy it.

Thousands of Americans besides the citizens of Florida are directly interested in having a well ordered, economical and efficient government in that State, for during a considerable part of the year tourists constitute a large part of its population. It is pleasing to find, therefore, that Gov. Stearns is taking a decided stand in favor of such reform measures as the simplification of the cumbrous and costly machinery of the State Government, the reduction of the expenditures for public printing, and the election of an "able and upright" representative in the United States Senate. There has been a good deal of quiet stealing and political rascality in Florida, but for her, as for the other Southern States, we see promise of better days.

THE REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE. The report of Messrs. Foster, Phelps, and Potter is one of the most remarkable and important political documents of recent years. It has rarely happened that a Committee of Congress deputed to investigate any subject having a direct partisan bearing has been able to arrive at a unanimous conclusion. Party considerations have their weight with the most upright and patriotic of men, swerving them from the line of impartiality, sometimes against their resolutions and without their knowledge. It was natural that a consistent Democrat like Mr. Potter and a stanch Grant Republican like Mr. Foster or Mr. Phelps should look at the conduct of the Administration party in Louisiana with very different eyes. But whatever their sympathies or predispositions may have been, they were not long in discovering that to the story of Louisiana there was only one side. They invited Kellogg and his friends to state their own case. They listened to counsel. They examined nearly one hundred witnesses, and heard what will amount when printed to fifteen hundred pages of testimony; and if common report speaks truth, the Republican members did all that honest men could do to find their party in the right. The result was laid before the country last Saturday, and we believe no good citizen has read it without amazement and indignation. For notorious as the rascalities of Kellogg's

Government have always been, we never

knew until now how utterly without palliasubversion of all the principles of a popular republican administration. The wrongs committed by the Returning Board hardly deserve the name of frauds, for fraud supposes some pretense of integrity, while the operations of this precious company of scamps were so bold as to be merely a defiance of law and justice. The Committee give specimens of the processes by which they reduced a Conservative majority of 29 in the Legislature to a minority of 3. The commonest trick was to throw out returns on pretense of "in-'timidation" of the negroes. In not one instance, after the most careful inquiry, could the Committee discover that such a state of things existed. The vote of the whole parish of Rapides was reversed on the affidavit of the President of the Returning Board that intimidation had been practiced at three of the polls, this gentleman not having been in the parish on the day of the election, and declining to give any testimony before the Committee. It further appeared that his affidavit had been smuggled into the proceedings of the Board without the knowledge of the Conservative counsel, gaged in preparing evidence for the new Congressional | and moreover it appeared, from the investigations of the Committee, that his sta was entirely false. In one place certain petty local functionaries appointed by Kellogg, and displaced by McEnery, had not returned to claim their offices after the suppression of the September insurrection, merely because the offices were not worth anything; that was called intimidation and made a pretext for rejecting votes. In another case a Federal Commissioner was visited by a procession of citizens to offer bail for certain persons under arrest, and he called that a derision of his proceedings which was "calculated to in-"timidate the colored voters." In another case, where there was a Conservative majority of 1,000 a Radical Supervisor stole his own returns. In another case the Supervisor hid himself until the time within which the returns were required to be delivered to him had passed, and then where they showed a Conservative majority he refused to receive them; but if the majority was the other way the limit of time was not observed. No negro could be found who professed to have been intimidated. No white man had any evidence that such a thing had been done. On the contrary, the Committee report that the violence was on the other side, and the wholesale military arrests of Conservatives for poliltical offenses served "to intimidate and sometimes even to produce a stampede among the white voters." Otherwise they believe the recent election to have been unusually free and fair. Respecting the counting of the vote, they reach the very moderate conclusion "that the action of the Returning Board on the whole was arbitrary, unjust, and illegal, and that this arbitrary, unjust, and illegal action alone prevented the return of a majority of Conservative members to the Lower House." They could not say less than this, and if they had not possessed

an enviable power of self-control they could hardly have said so little. And what manner of government is it that thus usurps authority and perpetuates its usurpation by setting aside elections? The Committee tell us that it is a huge organization of corrupt Rings, hated and despised by the whole people and "only upheld by the 'Federal military." The Governor wields 'a degree of power scarcely exercised by any sovereign in the world." His Legislature has abolished and set up courts in order to fill the bench with his creatures. Every kind of political control has been lodged in his hands. The police force New-Orleans has been turned into an armed State militia subject to his orders. The extraordinary election law has given him absolute control over the registration, casting, and counting of votes, and made it almost impossible to dislodge him. Indefinite appropria-Within the past week or two we have been | tions of money are placed at his disposal, and unheard-of monopolies are created for his benefit. Under this system of oppression the securities of the State have fallen in two years from 80 to 25, and of the City of New-Orleans of THIBUNES on the news-stands, though from 90 to 40. Business is destroyed. All

values are rapidly tumbling. Taxes can no longer be paid. Estates are confiscated. The negroes throughout the country parishes are turning freebooters. The public debt increases even beyond the generous limit of the law. Kellogg and his crew grow rich while Louisiana is ruined.

There, gentlemen of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, is a picture of your doings, drawn by three of the ablest of your own associates. Do not imagine that you can humbug the people by throwing the blame of this shocking state of affairs upon William Pitt Kellogg. He is nothing but your creature. You allowed the President to thrust him into the place he abuses. You have refused to turn him out when you have had the power, though you have known for more than two years what he is. You sustained him in spite of the disclosures of the Senate Committee in 1873; and you mean to sustain him now, in spite of the revelations of Messrs. Foster, Phelps, and Potter. It has been a worse crime than negligence or servility on your part; for you have done all this with your eyes wide open, that you might use Kellogg to control the vote of Louisiana for the Administration. Go on, if you choose, and complete the outrage. Sanction all that the President has done. Seat Pinchback and thank Sheridan. The people will settle with Kellogg and all the rest of you by and by. Meanwhile the Report of the Sub-Committee passes into history as the most terrible indictment ever brought against any political faction by its own members, and there are many of you who will read in it the death-warrant of the Republican party.

MR. GLADSTONE'S ABDICATION.

The retirement of Mr. Gladstone from the leadership of the Liberal party in England is upon the unwritten Constitution of the British Empire. He holds no office; he is simply a member of Parliament from the constituency of Greenwich, and yet his retirement from a place of merely moral significance is an incident of more importance than the fall of any Ministry on the continent. The sensation created by his formal announcement of his determination to abandon the leadership of his party, is the more remarkable when we consider that this act has not been unexpected, and that for a year past his relations with his political associates have been by no means regular or complete. Yet they are now thrown upto confusion by his formal retirement scarcely less than that which would fall upon an army which had lost its chief in battle. The deliberations of the prominent Liberals, which are to result in the choice of a standard-bearer to succeed Mr. Gladstone, are watched with almost painful interest by the rest of the party. For upon their decision tion were its outrages, how complete was its | depend not only the strength and conduct of their organization in future, but its very character and principles. In the names of Lord Hartington, of Mr. Forster, and Sir William Harcourt, the Liberal Committee are now weighing not merely personal fitness and capacity, but also the comparative merits of three different lines of action and policy. The Liberal party will not be the same organization under each of these three gentlemen. The adoption of either of them as leader will mean the exclusion of certain powerful elements of support which would have been secured by the others, and the gain of something which the others would have repelled. This seems strange enough to us, who have solved the problem required by the conditions of the times, and get on well enough without any leaders. If Mr. Logan should some day decline to lead the Senate any longer, Mr. Morton would ask him how long he had been leading it, Mr. Conkling would observe that his standing at the White House was as good as any one's, and Mr. West would say that Pinchback might as well want awhile before aspiring so high. And if all these leaders should give their places up to their coachmen, it would make no difference whatever in the policy of their party.

In fact the Government of England has now become a sort of duarchy, where the Prime Minister and the Leader of "Her Majesty's "Opposition" occupy positions somewhat analogous to those of the two kings of Siam. The Major King, the First Lord of the Treasury, in normal times governs Great Britain, with the assistance of the majority of Parliament, and the leader of the minority, as the Minor King, occupies a post of vigilant observation, with the prospect, though not the certainty, of the succession. For a man like Mr. Gladstone, not yet old nor broken in health, to deliberately abandon this point of vantage, gained by solid abilities and length of service, is nothing less than an abdication. If now, Mr. Disraeli should take counsel of his physical infirmities and resolve to pass the residue of his days in retirement. the constitution and the plan of action of both the great parties of England would suffer the most serious changes and modifications. But this result, though often speken about, is not likely to take place immediately. The air of Bournemouth has been very beneficial to Mr. Disraeli, and it is openly given out that ha is as well as ever. While this is probably an exaggeration of his improved physical condition, there is no reason to think that he will soon retire from public life. He is absolutely free from those conscientious besetments which so frequently attack Mr. Gladstone, and make him act rather as a theologian than as a politician. The latter has several times shown that he would rather defeat his party than violate his convictions, while his rival has never given evidence of any stronger convictions than that his party ought to succeed. Not the least singular feature in the matter of Mr. Gladstone's retirement is that his party strongly objects to his remaining in Parliament if he resigns the leadership, and his own constituency of Greenwich is said to be preparing a petition for his resignation. It is thought, and seriously argued, that if he should cease to be the Liberal leader, his influence and moral authority would still be so great in the House of Commons that he would be a continual danger to the party. A man of his sincerity and earnestness could not sit silent when measures which be thought wrong were presented and advocated, and if at any time he should disagree with the leaders of his

own side, it is feared that he might carry

with him a sufficient contingent to defeat

them. A prominent English paper speaking

of this probability, several weeks ago, said

that a man of Mr. Gladstone's ability and

temperament, holding an independent position

in the House of Commons, might go far toward

making parliamentary government impossible.

There are, after all, therefore, some compensa-

tions for that lack of great men which we

sometimes bewail. It would be highly incon-

venient to have any statesmen among us too

powerful to be allowed to go to Congress. It

its functions. HISTORIC PARALLELS.

Whoever remembers the last four years of power of the Democratic party, the period in which the madness was on them with which the gods presage destruction, cannot fail to be struck by the daily parallels which the party now in power is furnishing to the events of that time. Indeed, we observe that some of the organs of the Administration, groping about wildly and blindly for something by way of argument or historic parallel to vindicate the military interference in Louisiana, have struck upon precisely this method of treatment. A Connecticut newspaper, for instance, in which, if we are correctly informed, Postmaster-General Jewell is a principal stockholder, finds a precedent for the outrageous military interference in Louisiana in the use of Federal troops to prevent the meeting of a Free State Legislature in Kansas under the Topeka Constitution. It is certainly a very striking parallel; no one can fail to recognize the force of it. The moral of that transaction, however, lies in the fact that it put the party which sustained the action out of power for a period of at least sixteen years. People who go searching history for precedents and parallels ought to be careful not to stop too suddealy in their readings. It is all very well to say that a Democratic Administration once ordered military interference in Kansas. It would be somewhat more to the point, though, if the party which undertakes to follow that precedent should find out where it led and what became of the Administration that ordered it.

The speech of Mr. Howe of Wisconsin, in the Senate on Tuesday, suggested also two or three points of similarity between the two perian event which throws an interesting light ods, although it must be confessed nothing that was said in the Senate during the Kansas discussion is any parallel to the speech itself. For they did stand up and talk sense in those days, and no one indulged in any such idiotic drivel as the Wisconsin Senator bored his audience with. He began his answer to Senator Schurz-for he intended it as an answerwith the courteous assertion that that gentleman "had screamed to the country two charges 'against the party to which he (Mr. Howe) belonged-charges which were as monstrous and he believed as groundless as the Senator "(Mr. Schurz) could possibly have fabricated, 'if he had dedicated to the work, not merely a holiday recess, but a whole Summer vaca-'tion." That sounds very much like the answers made to the arguments against Government interference in Kansas eighteen or twenty years ago; and it sounds, too, very much like-Howe. It was quite like a Kansas debate, and quite like its author too, that having denounced a fellow Senator for screaming hes of his own fabrication to the country, he dropped the subject then and proceeded at once to warm himself up with a recital of bloody outrages" which were not true, and would not have been pertinent to the question if they were. Just so another party in a former period denounced the statements of the Free State men as lies, and without undertaking to prove them so, launched off incontinently in attacks upon John Brown or the

Helper book. Mr. Howe burst into statemanship of the highest order once in his speech when, after charging that murder and worse crimes were openly committed in Louisiana, Mr. Gordon of Georgia mildly inquired how it was, if the Government of the State and the Judiciary were in the hands of the Republicans, and a majority of the people supported Kellogg, that the courts, aided by the army of the United States, did not bring those criminals to justice. The answer was worthy of Howe. He thought the courts of the State were weak, but that if the Democratic party would say to Gov. Kelloge that they would sustain him in every effort to put down murder, there would be no trouble. This is statesmanship for which we search in vain in any history for a arallel. As President Lincoln said after listening to the missionary's long story about the Mediterranean tides, it does not remind us of anything we ever heard before. There was only one higher stroke of statesmanship in this great effort of Howe, and that was when he lifted up his nose at Senator Gordon, who asked him where he got his information about the outrages and things, and said he "declined

to yield the floor." The Wisconsin statesman offered one other parallel for the Kansas period when he straightened himself up in what we presume he called his peroration, and said he "could not consent "to turn back." He was "not constituted," he said, "on the crawfish order." Several persons who, in the deliberate judgment of mankind, knew a great deal more than Mr. Howe, pursued the same straightforward business in the Kansas period, and not being "of the craw-'fish order" went deliberately to the devil, taking their party with them. Some of them survive as melancholy examples, some are wanderers in foreign parts, and some in the insurance business. The Wisconsin statesman, rising quite naturally from this crustacean comparison to a nautical figure, ascending gently, so to speak, from the sub to the ultramarine, said : "There might be storms ahead, and it might be prudent for those not fully "insured to go ashore; but he was going to complete the voyage, and, if the ship went down before the voyage was completed, he would go down with it, and, if it should ever be raised again, as it must be, for the Great "Underwriter would attend to that, there "would be found at the masthead her flag, upon which might be read that all men, whatever their race or color might be, had 'equal rights to the pursuit of life, liberty, "and happiness." This is one of the things that will be remembered when Shakespeare is forgotten. It only remains to add that when the Great Underwriter raises the ship he will be very likely to find Howe, with other barnacles, clinging to the anchor as the emblem of Hope. For he is no crawfish.

SPECIE PAYMENTS WITHOUT SPECIE. We are not converts to the dogma that it is possible to establish and maintain specie payments in the United States without any specie to speak of. On the contrary, we are very firm in the belief that to maintain specie payments we shall need a much greater stock of specie and a much smaller circulation of notes than we have now. To illustrate our opinions on this point nothing is better fitted than the recent history of the Bank of France. On the 30th of June, 1870, just before the breaking out of the war with Germany, the note circulation of the Bank of France amounted to 288 million dollars, and the specie in its vaults to 254 millions. The liabilities to depositors were small, the entire indebtedness of the Bank, aside from its capital and outstanding notes, being but 135 million dolis pleasing to reflect that even if Mr. Chandler lars, to offset which the Bank held, besides stays in Michigan and Mr. Cockerell comes its specie and 50 millions of Government debt, squattic facts.

from Missouri, the Government will not cease | 150 millions in mercantile securities of unexceptionable character. No notes were then outstanding of a lower denomination than 50 francs, or 10 dollars, and the specie outside of the Bank, in the hands of the public, was estimated to amount to 600 or 800 million dollars. No bank notes were permitted

to circulate except those issued by the Bank. As we all know, no sooner was the war begun than the characteristic timidity of the French people manifested itself in a run for gold and silver. After paying out 75 million dollars in specie, and nearly doubling its loans and discounts, the Bank was directed by the Corps Legislatif to suspend specio payments, though 181 millions in specie still remained in its vaults, or about twice the amount held by the Bank of England at the same The suspension was doubtless date. justifiable under the circumstances, but we wish to point out that it Was not compelled by any lack of credit or of resources on the side of the Bank, and also the further fact that it has now been maintained for four years and a half without a higher premium on gold than two per cent, and that only for a brief interval. The cause of this exemption from an evil whose effects have been and are still severely felt by the United States is well worth looking into. It was not because the Bank did not ex-

pand the circulation of its notes. The aggregate of the note issue, when it reached its highest point-on the 31st of October, 1873, when the last installment of the indemnity was paid to Germany-was 614 million dollars, or more than double the circulation previous to the war. How can we account for the fact that the paper, though doubled in quantity, was so little depreciated? The explanation lies in the fact that only sufficient paper was Issued to take the place of the coin which was hoarded or exported to Germany in settlement of the indemnity. Had the Bank formerly issued its notes in such quantities and denominations as to banish gold and silver from all ordinary transactions, as had been done by the banks of the United States before 1861, the course which was afterwards adopted would have produced the same effects that followed here. The premium on gold would have risen enormously, and all creditors would have been defrauded. Of the notes of the Bank outstanding on the 29th of January, 1874, 150 million dollars were in denominations of 5, 20, and 25 francs, and those of 5 and 25 francs had already been considerably diminished. These notes merely replaced the gold and silver pieces in which small payments were formerly made. Had paper already been substituted for these coins it is evident that the addition of a fresh issue would have produced of cating them "abstruse." The all-mbracing meloif exactly the consequences which followed in our own case-a real inflation of the currency, and its consequent depreciation as shown by the premium on gold.

No sooner were the Germans paid off than efficient measures were taken by the French Government and the Bank to restore the eurrency of the country to its former condition. No foolish talk was indulged in of specie payments without specie, and no pledges were given of resumption at the end of four years, every one having capital at his command to be encouraged in the mean time to go into the banking business, and by issuing notes of all denominations, from one dollar upwards, to make it impossible to retain specie in the country. That folly was lett for the United States. Two simple things were done to restore the former basis: (1) the Government undertook to repay the advances made to it by the Bank during the war, and in fourteen months reduced its indebtedness 96 million dollars below the sum at which it stood on the 23d of October, 1873, and further agreed to pay off 160 million dollars more within four years; (2) the Bank used the money repaid it by the Government, and also that obtained by a timely reduction of its loans and discounts, to contract its note circulation from 614 million to 508 million dollars, and to increase its specie from 145 million to 266 million dollars, at the same time replacing all its small notes with gold and silver as fast as they came into its possession. During the whole year 1874 specie has been flowing into France from Germany, England, and America, the excess of imports over exports for the first eleven months being nearly 140 million dollars. Yet French trade has not suffered, the rate of interest has been low, and no disastrous effects have followed these great operations. It is evident that the measures which have been so effective in restoring the currency of France to its former excellence have ne kinship with anything of late years attempted

In addition to the work of recovering their specie and giving it room to live in, which has been so successfully accomplished by the French, we have a more serious task before us in getting rid of a real depreciation of at least ten per cent in our paper money. We have at the most moderate estimate ten per cent more paper money than we could retain it it were all turned this night into gold and silver. If some magician were to transform every greenback and National bank note into gold, he would simply leave us with an unfavorable balance in our foreign trade which would only be righted by the exportation of one tenth of our money. To attempt to resame specie payments in 18:9 without a contraction of the paper during the interval, will be undertaking to get more water into a pail which is already overflowing. After supplying the Gold Room, which is the intermediary between the Treasury and the importers, the experience of ten years demonstrates that the current of our specie is as steady towards Europe as that of the Mississippi towards the Gulf. The projected return to specie payments in 1879 will only be the removal of a sand bar in the stream. The Secretary may sell bonds for gold until he is sick of it, but he will not make the current flow from a lower to a higher level To contraction we must come at last, unless we are willing to sit down and wait patiently until we outgrow the gold premium. be observed, however, that under the influence of recent measures permitting further inflation to an indefinite extent, our best will be in a general insolvency and the utter discredit of the paper money. Inflation has often brought a nation back to specie payments in that way, but in no other.

The sharp debate on vivisection which Mr. Bergh precipitated last Summer, has had one good result, Dr. J. C. Dalton, Professor of Physiology in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, has embodied in a valuable little monograph the best judgment of the medical profession up to this time on the subject of the need, character and results of physiological experiments on aving animals. To this he appends the resolutions of medical societies and the testi-mony of experts, making altogether, as it seems, an unauswerable presentment of the case. There is little likelihood that any further effort will be made to interfere with so legitimate a means of advancing physiological knowledge as vivisection has been proved. But there are many whose sympathics have been unduly aroused by fanciful descriptions of agony wautonly inflicted upon dumb animals, who will be greatly relieved by this popular exhibit of secontific facts.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

THOMAS'S THIRD MATINER. Thomas's third matinée, given last Saturday

at Steinway Hall, was very well attended, the following Symphons, "Haroid in Italy," Op. 16. Berl Octet for string instruments, Op. 20. Mondelses, 1. Allegro moderato ma con fuoco. 2. Audanto. 3. Schetzo.

3. Scherzo.
PART II.
Overture, "William Tell"
Schumana
Iuroduction, 31 Act of the "Melstersinger
Ovinted.

North Nitrobers"
Wagner

A few seasons ago any conductor would have been

laughed at for offering the "Harold" Symphony at matinée concert. But Thomas's years of patient work have made the most abstrase music so plain to the comprehension of our audiences that Berlioz finds as ready a popular acceptance here as anywhere in the world. The performance of this Symphony at one of the even ing concerts early in the season aroused a great deal of interest and discussion among musicians, and that was only natural; but the favor with which its repetition was received by the general public on Saturday surpassed all reasonable expectation. Indeed we are half inclined to believe that persons who know little or nothing of the science of music, who care nothing about theories of art, and judge of a com position only as it pleases their ear or stirs their feelings, are readier to applaud this remarkable work than conneisseurs who stumble over itsextravagances and recognize at ones its boid departure rom classical models. Yet it is as far as possible from what is commonly called popular music. It is almost barren of catching melodics. Every phrase has a distinct and deep meaning, to which the development of mere sensuous tunes is held strictly subordinate. In a word, it makes no " concessions" to an unformed public taste; and if the public nevertheless like it we may fairly conclude that it contains an element of genuine poetry. The poetical idea is there, although its expression is at times somewhat forced and elaborate.

It was interesting to contrast the work of Berlios with the selections from Wagner's "Meistersinger." Berlios is often spoken of as the procursor if not the musical parent of Wagner, and though the art-prophet of the future has borrowed much less from the great French symphonist than is commonly supposed, we can certainly trace in Berlioz the patterns after which Wagner formed his method of orchestral coloring. Yet what enormous progress do we not perceive in the thirty years which passed between "Harold" and the "Meistersinger." Bertloz wrote as if in the midst of struggle, and in listening even to his most elegant and poetical creations we are somehow conscious of an atmosphere of strife, a tone of violent self-assertion. In Wagner, however, we feel the calm superiority of a master who knows that his victory has been won, who has no misgivings as to the permanency of what he has accomplished, whose thoughts flow easily, and whose facility of musical expression is practically boundless. The freedom for which Berlioz fought is here enjoyed in comfort; and the new forms which the French composer e-tablished, only after contention and experiment, seem almost to shape themselves spontaneously nuder the hand of the greater German and to clothe themselves with astonishing beauty and richness. It would be hard to find any music more ibtricate in structure and severe in tific character than these selections from the third Act of the "Meistersinger," and yet we should never think (a very different thing from tune) is too fluent and emo tional to suit that adjective.

The performance of these two prominent numbers on the programme was of course superb,-Mr. Charles Bactens playing the viola obbligate in the Symphony and Mr. Lockwood the harp. Equally remarkable in point of execution was the Mondelssohn Octet. This noble work, written before the composer was sixteen years of age, displays a fertility of fancy and a vigos of style which would have been striking in a mature writer, and are simply astonishing in a boy. It ranks with the very best and most popular of Mendelssohn's chamber compositions. Written for four violins, two tenors, and two 'celli, it is played by Mr. Thomas with the full string orchestra (louble basses excepted)-that is with five or six instruments for each of the eight parts. The unanimity, the delicacy, and the force of the rendering were all alike noticeable, and the weight of these well trained strings in the fortissimo passages can hardly be praised too highly.

BROOKLYN PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY. The programme for the second concert of the Brooklyn Philharmonic Society, given under the direction of Theodore Thomas last Saturday evening. was as follows : PART L.

readers will want no more than a general word of hearty praise for the spirit and polish of the interpretation. They sounded better in Steinway Hall than they can ever sound in an opera house, for in the hall the acoustic conditions are perfect, while in the Academy of Music the canvas scenes and hangings are unfavorable to the effect, and the performance consequently loses a little of its brightness and brilliancy. The "Hungarian Dances" by Brahms are quite new and very interesting. They are three in number, an Allegro moite, an Allegretto, and an Allegto con spirito. All are dis, tinguished by the striking rhythm and bold spirit characteristic of Hungarian national music, and all contain a great deal of the poetry which belongs to the best class of dance melodies, though so few composers are capable of sewing it. The second 'Leonora" overture, so much neglected by our concertgivers, was thoroughly enjoyable, and the Kaiser March brought an excellent concert to a majestic close. Miss Drasdil sung the Beethoven aria with admirable expression, and showed sufficient facility in the back eyed Rossinian air. The programme contained some interest ing information about the composer Brahms which is fresh to American readers.

MUSICAL NOTES.

Miss Kellogg's opera season will open next Monday with the "Trovatore" in Eaglish, to be fol-lowed by "Maritane," "Faust," and "Miguon." The club of English Glee singers, consisting

of Misses Beebe and Finch, and Messrs. Bush, Nilsen, Rockwood, Beckett, and Atken, will give three concerts at the Union League Theater, Jan. 21, Feb. 18, and March 18.

Thomas gives an extra concert at Steinway Hall this evening, introducing a new plantst, Mr. Con-stantin Weikert, who will play Schamman's concerto, and a Baliade of Chopia's. The principal selection for the orchestra is Mendelssobn's Scotch Symphony.

DRAMATIC NOTES.

Mr. Ben de Bar is acting Falstoff, at Mo-A new theater, called the Adelphi, has been

Mr. Barn"m's catalogue of amusements at Hippodrome in unusually attractive this week to his

Mr. F. F. Mackay, now of the Union Square Theater, has accepted the office of stage-manager of the Chestnut Street Theater, Pulladelphia, and will leave New-York next season.

Bijou Heron will receive a complimentary benefit on Wednesday afternoon, at the Union League Theater, appearing in "The Little Treasure," "Nan, The Good For Nothing," and the Poison scene in "Romeo and Juliot." The little maid is unique, ciever, and interesting; she needs the benefit; and the programme is good. It is hoped she will have a crowded house.

"Charity!" will be reproduced at the Fifth Avenue Theater to night, and the promised new piece.

"Charity!" will be reproduced at the Fifth Avenue Theater to-night, and the promised new piece, "Men of the Day," will be brought out on Wednesiay. Fanny Davesport, Sara Jowett, Emily Rizi, and other lavorite players, should create a rippie of interest. "Women of the Day" is now ascribed to the pen of Mr. C. H. Morton. Mr. Daly has also in preparation a new French drama, by M. Paul Forestier, called "The Officer of Fortune."

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE AT THE FIFTH

AVENUE. THE PART OF SHYLOCK-DID SHAKESPEARE CONCEIVE IT AS TRAGIC OR COMIC!

to the Editor of The Tribune.

Sig: Your dramatic criticisms are always so thoughtful and so scholarly that it is a pleasure for heater-goer to read them, even when he is compelled to differ from their conclusions.

I cannot agree, for example, with your critic when admitting that the production of "The Merchant of Venice" is "an enterprise very creditable to the Pifth Avenue Theater," which, he hopes, "will be rowarded with crowded houses," he still cannot suppose that "much has beed gained, either for dramatto art or the public instruction and pleasure